Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 L-03 H-02 IO-11 /091 W

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R 230515Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5578

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: DEBT PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 034445

- 1. ECON COUNSELOR REVIEWED THE CONTENTS OF REFTEL WITH FINANCE MINISTER FEBRUARY 20.
- 2. KIM YONG-HWAN INDICATED THAT THE ROKG HAD NOT FORMULATED A POLICY ON THIS MATTER FOR UNCTAD IV NOR HAD IT SELECTED REPRESENTATION. IN CONTRAST TO PAST PRACTICE, THEY WOULD CONSIDER SENDING A SENIOR ECONOMIC OFFICIAL RATHER THAN ONE FROM MOFA.
- 3. ON SUBSTANCE, HE THOUGHT THE ROKG AS ONE OF THE MORE ADVANCED LDCS WAS UNWILLING TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT DISTURB ITS COMMERCIAL BANK LENDERS. PROPOSALS TO STRETCH OUT COMMERCIAL DEBT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY DO SO, AT LEAST FOR A TIME. THE ROKG APPRECIATED THE US POSITION AND WOULD SUPPORT US, PARTICULARLY ON SUBSTITUTE PROPOSALS SUCH AS THOSE OF THE SECRETARY WHICH INCREASED ACCESS TO US CAPITAL MARKETS AND IMF LENDING.
- 4. AT THE SAME TIME HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT KOREA HAD NO DIRECT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTEREST IN RESCHEDULING COMMERCIAL BANK DEBT, AS IT DID NOT

INTEND TO BORROW IN THAT MARKET THIS YEAR AND WAS HAVING NO TROUBLE IN MAKING ITS PAYMENTS.

5. FYI: WE BELIEVE THE ROKG IS PERFECTLY WHOLEHEARTED IN ITS SUPPORT. ALL THE SAME, KOREA CONTINUES TO LOOK TO THE US, PARTICULARLY TO EX-IM AND OPIC FOR HELP IN GETTING ACCESS TO COMMERCIAL LENDING, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL, GIVEN THE OVER-RIDING THOUGH MINUTE MILITARY RISKS HERE. THE KOREAN POSITION WOULD BE LESS ENTHUSIASTIC IF THAT US SUPPORT FALTERS, AS IT HAS GIVEN SIGNS OF DOING, BECAUSE OF THESE AGENCIES EXPOSURE PROBLEMS. SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

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Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, GOVERNMENT DEBTS, DEBT AGREEMENTS

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

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Subject: DEBT PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

TAGS: EFIN, KS
To: STATE

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